

Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 01 GEORGE 01041 061405Z
ACTION ARA-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 DOE-15 SOE-02 AGRE-00 EB-08 AID-05
CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 PA-02 CA-01 ICA-20 /078 W
-----017656 061418Z /14

P R 061325Z APR 78
FM AMEMBASSY GEORGETOWN
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 6503
INFO AMEMBASSY BRIDGETOWN
AMEMBASSY KINGSTON
AMEMBASSY PORT OF SPAIN
AMEMBASSY PARAMARIBO
AMEMBASSY SANTO DOMINGO

UNCLAS GEORGEOWN 1041

SANTO DOMINGO FOR RMO

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: ENRG, ABUD, GY, SWEL, SOCI
SUBJECT: WATER PROBLEMS IN GUYANA

REF: (A) GEORGETOWN 862 (NOTAL); (B) GEORGETOWN 1015 (NOTAL)

THE FOLLOWING APPEARED IN GEORGETOWN'S GOVERNMENT-
CONTROLLED THE CITIZEN EVENING OF APRIL 5:

QUOTE: CITIZENS NEED NOT PANIC WHEN THEY SEE LITTLE WORMS
SWIMMING IN THEIR WATER WHEN IT COMES THROUGH THE TAPS.

"CHIEF ENGINEER OF THE GEORGETOWN SEWERAGE AND WATER
COMMISSIONERS, CDE. NEIL SAVORY SAID THAT WHEN THERE IS
POWER CUT THE OPPORTUNITY IS TAKEN TO STORE AS MUCH WATER
AS POSSIBLE, AND WHEN THE TAPS ARE AGAIN OPEN, THE HEAVY
PRESSURE FORCES THE WORMS OUT.

"THIS DOES NOT MEAN THAT THE WATER IS IMPURE, HE
EMPHASIZED, AS THE WORMS ARE NOT INJURIOUS TO HEALTH.

"HOWEVER, HE ADVISED, HOUSEHOLDERS CAN STILL TAKE
PRECAUTION BY BOILING WATER AS MUCH AS POSSIBLE.

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"AND THE SECRETARY OF THE EAST DEMERARA WATER
CONSERVANCY CDE. RENE FERNANDES DISCLOSED THAT WHILE HE
COULD NOT SAY HOW MUCH LONGER THE WATER IN THE CONSERVANCY
WILL LAST, THE LEVEL REMAINS VERY LOW.

"AT THE RATE WATER IS BEING USED IT COULD ONLY LAST
FOR ANOTHER 'COUPLE OF WEEKS.'

"HE ATTACKED THE ATTITUDE OF PEOPLE WASTING WATER, AND

SAID THAT IT SEEMED TO HIM THAT THEY DID NOT CARE.

"EVERYWHERE I GO,' HE SAID, 'THERE ARE PEOPLE WATERING THEIR GARDENS, WASHING CARS AND IN SOME INSTANCES TAPS ARE JUST LEFT RUNNING.'

"THEY MUST UNDERSTAND THE GRAVITY OF THE SITUATION AND WHENEVER WATER IS NOT FLOWING THE TAPS SHOULD BE TIGHTLY SECURED SO THAT THERE ISN'T THE SLIGHTEST WASTAGE.

"HE ADDED THAT SOME PEOPLE TURN ON THEIR TAPS AND WHEN THEY SEE THERE IS NO WATER THE TAPS ARE LEFT OPEN. THIS SHOULD NOT BE DONE AS THIS ADDS TO WASTAGE BECAUSE SOMETIMES THERE IS NO ONE AROUND TO TURN THEM OFF WHEN WATER COMES AGAIN."

BURKE

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NNN

Message Attributes

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Disposition Remarks:
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